

but CHIP helps them manage Jaxon's condition and makes well-baby checks more affordable, ultimately lowering the odds of another emergency visit.

Danielle Highley of Deer Lodge is another Montana kid who relies on CHIP funding. At just 18 months of age, Danielle lost the ability to walk. A form of juvenile arthritis proved to be a costly condition, as injections and infusions cost several thousand dollars, but when Danielle has consistent treatment, she can walk, run, and play like a kid again. Before being enrolled in CHIP, Danielle went without treatment for 3 months, and she again lost the ability to walk. CHIP has allowed Danielle the opportunity to get treatment and be a kid again. She is back in school, and when she grows up, of all things, she hopes to be a doctor for kids. I am also pleased to announce that she will be joining me as my guest at the State of the Union.

Jaxon and Danielle, thank you for sharing your stories. I am so glad that Congress has passed, and the President has signed into law a 6-year reauthorization of the program, the longest in its history. Now, the families of the 24,000 Montana children who depend on CHIP can rest assured their children will continue to have access to critical care.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ERIN COSKY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD an article that was published in yesterday's Pensacola News Journal, "Meet the Santa Rosa Teacher of the Year." I commend Ms. Erin Cosky for her dedication to Florida's students, and wish her well in the State's Teacher of the Year selection process.

The material follows:

[From the Pensacola News Journal USA Today Network, Jan. 24, 2018]

**MEET THE SANTA ROSA TEACHER OF THE YEAR**  
FLORIDA.—Gulf Breeze High School science teacher Erin Cosky has been selected as the Santa Rosa County School District's Teacher of the Year.

The news was announced during a surprise visit to Cosky's classroom Wednesday morning.

Cosky teaches earth and space science and advanced placement environmental science at the school. She is Santa Rosa's nominee for the Florida Department of Education's Teacher of the Year 2019.

The Florida Teacher of the Year will be selected in May and will serve as Florida's nominee for National Teacher of the Year, which will be announced in January 2019. Cosky, other nominees for the award and all Santa Rosa County educators will be honored at Santa Rosa's Golden Apple Celebration on March 2.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SAMANTHA NEFF, LEESA LAVENDER, AND JULIE DELRUSSO

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD an article that was published in the Orlando Sentinel, "Seminole Announces Three

Teacher-of-the-Year Finalists." I commend Ms. Samantha Neff, Ms. Leesa Lavender, and Ms. Julie DelRusso for their dedication to Florida's students and wish them well in the State's Teacher of the Year Selection process.

The material follows:

[From the Orlando Sentinel, Jan. 24, 2018]

**SEMINOLE ANNOUNCES THREE TEACHER-OF-THE-YEAR FINALISTS**

(By Leslie Postal)

A math coach, a civics teacher and a high school instructor who works with students with disabilities were tapped Wednesday as finalists for Seminole County's teacher-of-the-year honors.

The winner will be announced March 15 and will then be in the running for Florida's top teacher award.

Seminole's three finalists are:

Samantha Neff, a math coach at Idyllwild Elementary School, who has been an elementary school teacher in the district for 17 years and also teaches at the University of Central Florida.

Leesa Lavender, a seventh-grade civics teacher at Markham Woods Middle School, who has taught middle school social studies since 2007.

Julie DelRusso, who works with 9th-to-12th-grade students through the district's Exceptional Student Support Services Department. She's been a teacher with the district for 25 years.

The district will announce the winner at the teacher-of-the-year ceremony at the Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs.●

#### TRIBUTE TO COLTON MEEHAN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Colton Meehan, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Colton is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, having earned a degree in politics. He is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Colton Meehan for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting nominations which were referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4132. A communication from the Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Amendments to Rules of Registration and Review of Exchange Disciplinary, Access Denial or Other Adverse Actions" (RIN3038-AE15) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4133. A communication from the Management Analyst, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "United States Standards for Barley" (7 CFR Part 800 and 810) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2018; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4134. A communication from the White House Liaison, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 23, 2018; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4135. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 22-230, "Health Literacy Council Establishment Act of 2017"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4136. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) Quarterly Report to Congress; First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2018"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE for Mr. McCain for the Committee on Armed Services.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Scott D. Berrier, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Charles L. Plummer, to be Major General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Sharon R. Bannister, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Jeffery A. Rockwell, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Anthony R. Hale and ending with Col. Garrick M. Harmon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 11, 2017.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Eric J. Wesley, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Theodore D. Martin, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Susie S. Kuilan, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Leslie C. Smith, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (1h) Johnny R. Wolfe, Jr., to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Capt. John C. Ring, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (1h) Scott D. Conn, to be Rear Admiral.

Mr. INHOFE for Mr. McCain. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed

Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning with Sarah E. Abel and ending with Michelle E. Wyche, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 14, 2017.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brett L. Hedgepeth and ending with Ryan M. Yi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 11, 2017.

Air Force nominations beginning with Joanna K. Kowalik and ending with Mahasin M. Hangalay, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 11, 2017.

Air Force nominations beginning with Trish M. Arno and ending with Christopher N. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 8, 2018.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jin Hwa Lee Frazier and ending with Jack David Spencer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nominations beginning with Corey L. Anderson and ending with Robert K. Talton, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nomination of Michael C. Maine, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Melissa A. Day and ending with Roberta J. Stemem, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nominations beginning with Matthew M. Bird and ending with Paul Kelley Stroud, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nominations beginning with Holly L. Brewer and ending with Mario Tommasi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nominations beginning with John G. Andrade and ending with Lawrence P. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nomination of Joshua M. Kovich, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with David M. Dersch, Jr. and ending with Patrick J. Travers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nominations beginning with Lance J. Kim and ending with Sonia W. S. Taoyi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Air Force nomination of David L. Wells II, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Aleksandr Gutman, to be Major.

Army nomination of Robert L. Ozburn, to be Major.

Army nomination of Jocelyn A. Leventhal, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Alyssa S. Adams and ending with Bradley O. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Army nominations beginning with Kenneth S. Katrosh and ending with Dolly R. Livingston, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph Kloiber and ending with Paul Navas III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Army nomination of Erick C. Crews, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Michael C. Bradwick and ending with Douglas S. Yoon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Army nominations beginning with Zachary T. Busenbark and ending with Jaime A. Sanjuan Rubio, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Army nominations beginning with Gabby V. Canceran and ending with John P. Cross, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Army nomination of Adam T. Soto, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Philip J. Dacunto, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Lyle A. Ourada, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Sherry M. Kwon, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Christopher N. Earley, to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with William Doctor, Jr. and ending with Scott E. Vasquez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Paulo T. Alves and ending with Patrick J. Toal, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Marine Corps nomination of Henry W. Soukup, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of William W. Inns III, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Craig A. Elliott, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Bill W. Brooks, Jr. and ending with Kyle L. Hollis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Edward J. Abma and ending with Joseph A. Zimmermann, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Justin R. Anderson and ending with Michael D. Wilcox, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 18, 2018.

Marine Corps nomination of Steven P. Hulse, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nominations beginning with Paul F. Magoulick and ending with Li Sung, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 14, 2017.

Navy nomination of Nicholas H. Steging, Jr., to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Jonathan S. Durham, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Laura C. Gilstrap and ending with Diana Tranyu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on December 11, 2017.

Navy nomination of Todd D. Husty, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Dawn M. Stankus, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Paul I. Ahn, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Allen G. Gunn, to be Lieutenant Commander.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 2338. A bill to amend chapter 55 of title 5, United States Code, to reform the manner in which Border Patrol agents are compensated; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2339. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2340. A bill to establish the Federal Labor-Management Partnership Council; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2341. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG:

S. 2342. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to create an innovation zone initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 2343. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a task force for meeting the connectivity and technology needs of precision agriculture in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 2344. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize additional visas for well-educated aliens to live and work in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 2345. A bill to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide additional resources to State and local prosecutors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 2346. A bill to establish an innovative water infrastructure workforce development program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2347. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to expand the ability to use testing